# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2640
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2016
Micro Water-Harvesting Projects
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the micro water-harvesting projects in water scarce areas of the country have changed the life of poor farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating on making water harvesting popular in water scarce areas in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government also proposes to provide water for irrigation in accordance with the need of particular crop in appropriate quantity and at right time and prevent unnecessary flow of water, if so, the details of the steps being taken in this regard; and

(e) the manner in which the said projects are likely to benefit farmers?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) to (c): Micro water harvesting structures provide protective/ life saving irrigation to crops. This helps in increasing cropping intensity and crop productivity there by providing higher income to the farmers. Micro water harvesting also helps in augmenting and recharging groundwater. Micro water harvesting structures like contour trenches, field bunds, contour bunds, boulder checks, gabion structures, check dams, farm ponds, renovation of traditional water bodies etc. are promoted through various Government programmes like Watershed component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc.

(d) & (e): PMKSY has a dedicated component namely 'Per Drop More Crop' to ensure efficient use of water at farm level through use of Drip and Sprinkler irrigation systems and promoting appropriate cropping system suitable to the agro-ecological region. Besides, crop diversification is being implemented in original green revolution states viz: Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh as sub scheme under RKVY to diversify cropping pattern from water guzzling crops to less water requiring crops.

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